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FOREIGN F DADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE ABIDJAN BUREAU

MAB 231 2 December 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Abidjan Bureau - November 1982

I. GENERAL

The cost of living allowance (COLA) for staff employees in Abidjan was increased from 5 to 20 percent effective 31 October. The increase came as a result of a cost of living survey conducted by the Embassy during the summer. Because of the strength of the dollar over the past year, COLA had dropped as the exchange rate rose. However, the Embassy survey showed that costs of basic goods and services had risen rapidly, thus negating much of the additional power of a strong dollar.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. November was an exceptional month for Abidjan, with two coups in the bureau's coverage area. The Saye Zerbo regime in Upper Volta was overthrown, and an attempt against Jerry Rawlings in Ghana was defeated. These two events helped push bureau wordage to an all-time high of nearly 300,000.

On Sunday, 7 November, a visiting BBC television crew called the bureau to find out if there were problems in Upper Volta. as flights to Ouagadougou were canceled without explanation. The bureau immediately began monitoring Ouagadougou radio, and caught the end of an announcement asking for the people's support and telling them to return to their normal business. A signon-signoff open watch was established, requiring a 16-hour shift on the 7th. During the day the radio carried a series of decrees, including one establishing a Provisional People's Salvation Council (CPSP). On the 8th the radio announced that the CPSP leader was Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. a 40-year-old doctor. Ouedraogo gave his first press conference on the afternoon of the 19th. The radio broadcast a recording of the press conference late that evening, and the bureau remained open until 0100 to finish processing. On the 26th both AFP and the radio announced the new Upper Voltan cabinet and the composition of the People's Salvation Council, which replaced the CPSP. At the request of the Ambassador, the bureau supplied coup-related material, with French transcriptions, directly to Ivorian Foreign Minister Simeon Ake as well as to the Embassy.

On the 24th a coup attempt in Ghana was foiled. This attempt was the culmination of a series of problems over the past month, including the resignation of the Ghanaian chief of staff on the 23d. At 0600 on the 24th Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings announced on Accra radio that the attempted coup had been defeated and that loyal troops were in control of the situation. An initial FYI on this announcement was telephoned to the Wire, as bureau teletypists were not yet on duty. The radio then warned that any troops moving without orders would be "bombed" and that "isolated pockets" of resistance were on the run. The radio also reported that fighting had taken place the previous night, and subsequently announced that a number of soldiers and civilians--none identified-had been arrested. By nightfall it was clear that the coup had been defeated and rallies were held throughout Ghana the following day to celebrate. At a large rally in Accra, Rawlings defended his record and said he would "very soon" introduce new "structures" and a new economic program. Again, copies of all relevant items, together with French translations, were delivered expeditiously to the Ivorian Foreign Ministry and the Embassy. The BBC Newsbureau, which closely watches events in the former British colony, sent a message expressing gratitude for the bureau's "excellent service" on the coup attempt.

- 2. The timing of the Ghana coup attempt was interesting as it might have been expected that Rawlings would have been in Tripoli at the time, at the second OAU summit in the Libyan capital. This summit conference, like an earlier one in August, could not be held due to lack of a quorum. The issue this time was the representation of Chad, with the host, Al-Qadhdhafi, contending that the deposed Transitional National Union Government of Goukouni Oueddei should represent the country while various African countries demanded that current leader Hissein Habre should take Chad's seat. A compromise could not be reached, and the summit was not held. The bureau processed statements and comment from various participating or nonparticipating countries in our coverage area. Embassy officers in Abidjan were particularly interested in a statement by Foreign Minister Ake on the Ivorian position. The statement, carried in the Abidjan daily Fraternite Matin, was discussed in detail at a Country Team meeting.
- 3. Reaction to the African tour of Vice President George Bush occupied some attention. A commentary from Accra radio used the occasion to refute the U.S. position on linking Cuban troops in Angola with a Namibia settlement. Lagos radio asserted that it was time the U.S. put its words into actions in southern Africa, and the News Agency of Nigeria said the U.S. should be mindful of its longterm interests on the continent. Zaire avoided the issue in public statements and Angola continued to reject U.S. optimism on a Namibia accord.

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B. Lateral Services

The U.S. Consulate in Kaduna, Nigeria, responding to a query from LRB on FBIS services, said that it wishes to continue receiving FBIS reports because they are of "high value to post, especially in fast-developing situations such as the recent religious disturbances in northern Nigeria."

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

French-English monitor PSI on the 14th, to FSN 3/3.	received a		
	Chief, Abidjan Bureau		

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Attachment

Monthly Production Report

CC: Acting Deputy Chief, London Bureau Chief, Swaziland Bureau

ABINJAN BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR NOVERMBER 82

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 296,570
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 4,850
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 770

BROAD- PRESS PUBLI-CASTS AGENCIES CATIONS

II. IMPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:

(NINUTES OR ISSUES PER NEEK) 7.784 31.380 1 115

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

ANGOLA

LUANDA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

ENGLISH 1.210

LUANDA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

FRENCH 1,420

LUANDA ANGOP IN

PORTUGUESE

LUANDA ANGOP IN

FRENCH 15,180

BENIN

COTONOU DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

FRENCH 3,380

COTONOU EMUZU IN

FRENCH

CAMEROON

YAOUNDE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

ENGLISH 4,060

YROUNDE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

FRENCH 880

CAMEROON TRIBUNE IN

FRENCH

CAMEROON TRIBUNE IN

ENGLISH

CAPE VERDE

PRESE VODZIPOVO IN

PORTUGUESE

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

BANGUI DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

FRENCH

CONGC

BRAZZRVILLE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN

FRENCH 1,930

BRAZZAVILLE BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN IN

FRENCH

BRAZZAVILLE ETUMBA IN

FRENCH

EQUATORIAL SUINEA

HALABO DONESTIC SERVICE IN

SPANISH

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590

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BROAD-PRESS PURLICA-CASTS AGENCIES TIONS FRANCE PARIS AFP IN 38,210 ENGLISH PARIS AFP IN 31,720 FRENCH PARIS DIPLOMATIC INFORMATION SERVICE IN 330 ENGLISH PARIS DIPLOMATIC INFORMATION SERVICE IN 18,730 FRENCH GABON LIBREVILLE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN 2,540 FRENCH LIBREVILLE L'UNION IN FRENCH LIBREVILLE AFRICA NO.I IN 2,280 FRENCH GAMBIA BANJUL GAMBIA DOMESTIC IN ENGLISH BANJUL GAMBIA NEWS DULLETIN IN ENGLISH GHANA ACCES DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH 48,850 ACCRA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH ACCEN CHANGIAN TIMES IN ENGLISH ACCRA DAILY GRAPHIC IN ENGLISH ACCRD BEEKLY SPECTATOR IN ENGLISH ACCRS THE MIRROR IN ENGLISH LONDON GRE TO ACCER GRE IN EWGLISH GUINER BISSAU DISSOU NO PINTORE IN 188 PORTUGUESE GUINEA CONAKRY DOMESTIC SERVICE IN 948 FRENCH CONAKRY HOROYA IN FRENCH

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- BROAD- PRESS PUBLICA-

CASTS AGENCIES TIONS

ABIDIRN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN 750

ABIDIAN FRATERNITE MATIN IN 2.460

ABIDIEN INFORMATION IN

LIBERIA

MCHROVIA RADIO RLWA IN
ENGLISH 1,890

MONTOVIS DONZETIC IN

ENGLISH 5.180 MOWROULS EXPRESS IN

ENGLISH MCMROVIA LIBERIAN INAUGURAL IN

ENGLISM HONROVIA NEW LIBERIAN IN

MCMMONIA THE SUND PEOPLE IN

ENGLISH

DAMANO DOMESTIC SERVICE IN 3,558

BAMANO LISSOR IN FRENCH

ENGLISH

FRENCH

MSCMITAINIA NGCAKCHOTT DENESTIC SERVICE IN

FRENCH 3/180 MOLAKCHOTT CHARB IN

RENCH TRENCH

FRENCH

NIBER NIBER DEMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH

SIRMEY LE SAMEL IN FRENCH NIAMEY SAMEL MEBDO IN 2,150

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3	RRORD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICA- TIONS
NICERIA LAGOS DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISM LEGGS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH MADENA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH NIGERIAN NEWS AGENCY (NAM) IN ENGLISH RWANDA	21,790 9,220 3,220	24,690	
KIGALI DONESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH SENEGAL DAKAR DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH DAKAR LE SOLEIL IN FRENCH	428		
SIERRA LEONE FREETOWN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH FREETOWN DAILY MAIL IN ENGLISH	1,758		
TOGO LOME DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH TOGO MOUVELLE MARCHE IN FRENCH	2,928		
UPPER VOLTA ODAGADOUGOU BOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH ODAGADOUGOU L'OBSERVATEUR IN FRENCH	18,220		
UNITED KINGDOM LONDON REDIER IN ENGLISH LONDON REDIER IN FRENCH			
ZAIRE MINSMASA BONESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH KINSMASA AZAF IN FRENCH KINSMASA EUBUMBASHI MJUMBE IN FRENCH	8,670	9, 22(1